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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Mining and Geological Research Institute
2. The Soviet Geological Mission

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The Mining and Geological Research Institute

1. The Direktsia za Geoloski Pruchvania (Geological Research Directorate) is located in the building known as the Popsko Zdanie (Priests House) on Lenin Square (formerly Sveta Sofia Square) in Sofia, on the corner of Stamboliyski Street in the immediate vicinity of the mansion which houses the headquarters of the Orthodox Synod. The name of the Directorate is indicated on a sign outside the building.
2. The Institute is subordinate to the Ministerstvo na Minite i Podzemnите Bogotstva (Ministry of Mining and Subsoil Resources). It is in charge of all geological research for this ministry as well as for other ministries which require research; for instance, when the Ministry of Construction plans a dam it requests the Institute for geological surveys, etc.
3. In the spring of 1951, Konio (Zogno?) Dimitrov, an engineer, was the director general of the Institute. He has probably been replaced since then because he now has a chair at the University. Other persons at the Directorate known to informant are as follows:
  - a. Dr. Boyan Kamenov, a Communist, brother of the former Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, a member of the Directorate until two years ago, now a university professor, was in the USSR for two years specializing in polytechnical teaching, named corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences in January 1952; <sup>1</sup>

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- 25X1 b. A certain Kokhen, a [redacted] geologist, one of the most highly rated technicians in Bulgaria, studied and worked in Switzerland; and
- c. A certain Nikolayev, a geologist.

4. The equipment of the Directorate is as follows:

- a. Some sounding equipment;
- b. At least 10 Krelius sounding apparatus, Swedish manufacture, probably received from the USSR, recently arrived in Bulgaria; and
- c. Oil prospecting equipment capable of penetrating to depths of 2,000 meters.

The Directorate also has at its disposal a completely equipped geological laboratory with apparatus, microscopes for studying samples of rock, etc.

The Soviet Geological Mission

5. The existence of the Sovetska Geoloska Ekspeditsia (Soviet Geological Mission) in Bulgaria is kept most secret. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] it is located in the eastern outskirts of Sofia, and that it has a large personnel, all Soviets.

6. The Mission does geological and mining research, studies, and prospecting for the Soviet authorities and is entirely independent of the Bulgarians.

25X1 [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] it is probably concerned primarily with strategic materials,

25X1 especially uranium. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

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